## **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

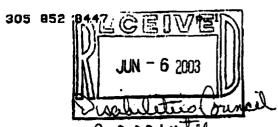
## **AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: June 18, 2003	Division: BOCC		
Bulk Item: Yes No _X_	Department: DISTRICT 5		
AGENDA ITEM WORDING: Appointment of Marlen Weeks to the Florida	a Keys Council for People with Disabilities		
ITEM BACKGROUND: The District Five appointee, Andrew Tobin, resigned and Ms. Weeks will take his place.  PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOCC ACTION:  CONTRACT/AGREEMENT CHANGES:			
		STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:	
		TOTAL COST: N/A	BUDGETED: Yes No
COST TO COUNTY:	SOURCE OF FUNDS:		
REVENUE PRODUCING: Yes No _	AMOUNT PER MONTH Year		
APPROVED BY: County Atty Of	MB/Purchasing Risk Management		
DIVISION DIRECTOR APPROVAL:	MAYOR PROFEM MURRAY NELSON		
DOCUMENTATION: Included X	Not Required		
DISPOSITION:	AGENDA ITEM #_Q8		

Revised 1/03

Jun 05 03 07:17p

Coastal Title





June 5, 2003

Commissioner Murray Nelson (Via Fax Transmittal: 852-7162)

Re: Appointment to the Disabilities Council

Dear Commissioner Nelson:

I would like to thank you for considering me your appointment to the Disabilities Council I have been a resident of the Upper Keys since 1978. Aside from being married, the mother of three children and busines; owner, I enjoy giving back to my community at every opportunity possible.

Among many things, I have served as Charter President of the Zonta Club of the Upper Keys; President, Vice-President and Treasurer of the Key Largo School Parent Teacher Association; Coral Shores High School Site Selection Committee Member and Negotiating Team Member; Key Largo School Advisory Council Chair and Coral Shores High School Advisory Council Vice-Chair.

Approximately 11 years ago, I was elected Vice-President of the Key Largo School Parent Teacher Association. Among the many challenges the Board faced, the replacement of all the dilapidated playground equipment with new state of the art equipment was the most difficult.

I became involved in this project because I wanted to insure that every child would have equal access to our playground equipment. I did not want to see a handicapped child segregated from his friends. We designed a playground that was accessible to everyone with transfer stations and pull up bars and ramps which would allow children with upper body strength to play alongside their classmates. We installed a swing set with a wheelchair accessible swing, which would allow a handicapped child to ride right next to his friends.

The final stage of our construction project involved connecting the playground to the school buildings with handicapped accessible sidewalks. Although our funds were exhausted, I knew that our job was not complete until we enabled the wheelchair bound child access to the equipment. So, we decided to sell concrete. Hundreds of adults, children and businesses turned out to place their names on the concrete. The project was a success and is still standing today. I learned many things from this experience. It is one of the things I am most proud of.

I am sorry for the delay. I hope this information is helpful to you. If you should have any further questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

Marien Weeks

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## Florida Kaya Council For People With Disabilities 1100 Simonton Street, Suite 2-257 Key West FL 33040 http://www.eo.mouroe.fl.us 306-292-4500



## Meeting Dates 2003

- Thursday, January 23, 2003, 10:00AM at Monroe County Branch Library, Marathon
- 2. Thursday, March 27, 2003, 10:00AM at Govt. Annex, Marathon
- 3. Thursday, May 22, 2003, 10:00AM at Govt. Annex, Marathon
- 4. Thursday, July 24, 2003, 10:00AM at Govt. Annex, Marathon
- 5. Thursday, September 25, 2003, 10:00AM at Govt. Annex, Marathon
- 6. Thursday, November 20, 2003, 10:00AM at Govt. Annex. Marathon

